20000615.qrp v01_n853.qrl.20000615

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 19:03:06 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 1853

QRP-L Digest 1853

Topics covered in this issue include:

  1) [72700] Recovering from Bad Day on the Bench, or SMK-1Watt Lives Again
     by NB6M@aol.com
  2) [72701] Mic Pre-amp
     by Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
  3) [72702] TV
     by Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
  4) [72703] Re: DSL?
     by Jeff Francis <jfrancis@frii.com>
  5) [72704] SMK-1 finished and running - comments
     by K1DXradio@aol.com
  6) [72705] Re: Touch-Controlled Lamps RFI
     by Nv4t@aol.com
  7) [72706] WTB: Argo 509
     by Richard Arland <k7sz@epix.net>
  8) [72707] Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
     by BenNW7DX@aol.com
  9) [72708] Re: Surface Mounted Parts Shortage
     by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
 10) [72709] DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
     by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
 11) [72710] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
     by GElam30092@aol.com
 12) [72711] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
     by Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>
 13) [72712] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
     by Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
 14) [72713] help needed please with DTMF decoding
     by "merryprankster" <merryprankster@cwcom.net>
 15) [72714] 5T5U log search
     by osier <osier@northnet.org>
 16) [72715] w/r ant "turkey shoot"
     by hamjoel@juno.com
 17) [72716] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
     by Wb8siw@aol.com
 18) [72717] OT: help needed please with DTMF decoding
     by Wb8siw@aol.com
 19) [72718] Re: Surface Mounted Parts Shortage

by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
20) [72719] 40 mtr dx
by hamjoel@juno.com
21) [72720] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
22) [72721] RE: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
by Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
23) [72722] Re: A source for crystals
by Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
24) [72723] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
by K1DXradio@aol.com
25) [72724] [CONTEST] QRP Contesting - This Weekend
by Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
26) [72725] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
by Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
27) [72726] Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
by "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
28) [72727] DSW-20 Troubleshooting Help
by "K.Edwards" <kedwards@mindspring.com>
29) [72728] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
by John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
30) [72729] Q-Dope Available
by K5KW@aol.com
31) [72730] RE: Q-Dope Available
by Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
32) [72731] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
33) [72732] Q-Dope and other questions
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
34) [72733] SMK 1w Mod.
by "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
35) [72734] [CW NET] New England QRP Club
by Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
36) [72735] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope (Finger Nail Polish)
by Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
37) [72736] SMK-1 - comments continued
by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
38) [72737] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
by "Larry Acklin" <larrya@compu-fixinc.com>
39) [72738] Re: help needed please with DTMF decoding
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
40) [72739] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
41) [72740] Re: DSW-20 Troubleshooting Help
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
42) [72741] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
by John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
43) [72742] Re: SMK-1 - comments continued

    by NB6M@aol.com
 44) [72743] RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
    by schoon@amgt.com
 45) [72744] N2CX back on-line
    by "Joe Everhart" <n2cx@voicenet.com>
 46) [72745] Another Dumb Scope Question
    by "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
 47) [72746] Re: RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
    by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
 48) [72747] RE: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
    by "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
 49) [72748] Q-Dope (More)
    by K5KW@aol.com
 50) [72749] Re: RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
    by "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
 51) [72750] Re: DSL
    by "Bradfield, Brad V." <BBradfield@spectrapoint.com>
 52) [72751] SMK-1/ One Watt mod/NB6M
    by Charles K Brown <n4so@juno.com>
 53) [72752] remove
    by Scott <k2zs@rochester.rr.com>
 54) [72753] Very interesting web site
    by "Kevin Muenzler, WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>
 55) [72754] Re: Geeky Snake Oil
    by wd3p@juno.com
 56) [72755] speaker question
    by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
 57) [72756] FS Heathkit Power Supply
    by fcsw@juno.com
 58) [72757] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
    by K2UD@aol.com
 59) [72758] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
    by K2UD@aol.com
 60) [72759] Re: help needed please with DTMF decoding
    by "baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com" <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>
 61) [72760] San Jose next week??
    by "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 19:01:44 EDT
From: NB6M@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72700] Recovering from Bad Day on the Bench, or SMK-1Watt Lives Again
Message-ID: <b9.401b691.267968d8@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm happy to say that my SMK-1Watt is back on the air. The culprit was L-5, the 1 uh inductor in the output network.

Guess the much higher RF level it was having to pass when I was trying to use the outboard amp was just too much current for it, and it must have a short in it, as I read 0 ohms across it, which is what I should read, but the inductance is no longer anywhere near 1 uh. I know that, even though I don't have an inductance meter, because the output network did not perform as it should and now, with a 1uh coil wound on a T37-2 toroid in its place, the output is where it should be.

Clues to finding the problem were:

RF output of rig no longer clean, as evidenced by the fact that the SWR could not be zeroed out with the tuner.

Less RF on the Collector of Q-3 than previously. Had been reading about 8.4 Volts or so, and with the damaged coil in place, got just under 6 Volts.

And, the real puzzler, which led me to replace L-5 even though my Ohmmeter red 0 ohms across it, as it would a good coil, was that the RF voltage on the antenna side of the output network was MORE than the RF voltage on the C-22 side. I was reading 3.3 or so Volts of RF on the C-22 side and 3.7 or so Volts of RF on the antenna side. Should be the other way around, perhaps a little bit less on the antenna side, which would tend to show that the output network is doing its job of filtering out unwanted harmonics.

My SMK looks funny with a T37-2 toroid with 16 turns on it where L-5 belongs, but I now get about 9 volts of RF on the collector of Q-3, and, the RF voltage out is where it should be, and, most importantly, the tuner now zeros out the SWR at the same
settings it does for my other 40 meter rigs, which shows that my output is now relatively clean again.

Now, with the 1 Watt Mod back in place, I get 9.0 Volts of RF at the antenna jack, which computes to 1.6 Watts.

Also, thanks to Ken, N4SO, I contacted RF Parts, and ordered an MRF450A, which I can use where the MRF449A went in my amp. I would have gotten an MRF449A from them except that they only sell them in matched pairs at $59.00, or matched quads, hi.

Hope to see you on the air.

72

Wayne   NB6M

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 16:48:56 -0700
From: Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu, elecraft@qth.net
Subject: [72701] Mic Pre-amp
Message-ID: <200006142345.QAA28513@enterprise.extremezone.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The question was asked "why would I need a mic pre-amp in my rig"? How would I tell if I need one?

I have two K-2s, and, when using VOX, one will hold keying while speaking in a normal tone of voice, and one will not. SSBA can be set to either 2 or 3 on that particular rig with no change. So, from that, I opine that I should probably have a mic pre-amp in that rig (using the same Kenwood MC-43 mic on both rigs, switching from one to the other to test them).

I haven't heard anything from Elecraft about whether this kit is needed or not, but it seems to fill a need, and can easily be removed if needed in the future.

So, if you think you need, or just want, a mic pre-amp for your rig, the AZ ScQRPions are offering a kit that will do the job for just $10.00. Check it out at http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m/preamp.htm

Bob Hightower NK7M
Chandler, AZ
SOC #20
K2 #157/255

http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 16:52:45 -0800
From: Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72702] TV
Message-ID: <Chameleon.961028252.anthony@anthony-400>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=ISO-8859-1

"How about the little AC-DC five tube radios that use to have a RCA phono plug on the back with a sticker saying "Television.""

This was real. The earliest television systems used a slow scan rate and very few lines. They had a narrow bandwidth and the first transmissions were in or just above the AM broadcast band. On some of the old radios that have the calls of stations printed on the dial along with frequency, you will see calls like "W6XTD" at the high end. These
were the early TV stations. The "TV" was a mechanical disk appliance that used a standard AM radio as the rf section. In fact, you needed two radios to get the broadcasts, one for picture and one for sound. Unless you lived in one of a few major cities in the thirties, you would have been completely unaware
of these broadcasts. They were never on a large scale.

The BBC started 30-line 12.5fps TV broadcasts nightly in 1933. The transmissions were
late at night after the audio programs were finished. It must have sounded pretty wierd if you left your radio on. There is a great
website with some old recordings (the narrowband signals could be recorded on regular phonograph discs.):

http://www.dfm.dircon.co.uk/New30.HTM

QST's of the twenties carry many articles on building ham TV stuff as well as editorials of the threats commercial TV broadcasting of the period were posing. Apparently, hams in the UK have resurrected the 30-line system for full motion (at really low resolution) TV on the HF bands.

73, WN6Q

Anthony Felino, Pacific Information Design
email: anthony@pacinfosb.com
telephone: (805) 730 1565, x25
fax: (805) 730 1569
shipping address:
411 E. Canon Perdido, Ste. 16
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 12:42:26 -0600
From: Jeff Francis <jfrancis@frii.com>
To: w1rfi@arrl.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [72703] Re: DSL?
Message-ID: <3947D212.AF027DF7@frii.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

  I've done tons of HF in every kind of networked environment you can imagine (including next to cable modems and DSL). To date, I've had only two real problems:

1. Cheap 10 and/or 100 mbps hubs make hash like your worst nightmare.
2. Running a computer without the case on it *sometimes* can cause you trouble.

  I've never had any trouble with a DSL modem, a cable modem, an ISDN router, or anything else. On the other hand, I *have* had radiated RF from my ham gear cause computer/networking problems. Particularly with medium power (50w or so) 2m and 70cm. It was very entertaining (though probably not good for the monitor) to watch the computer screen pulse big and small in time with my CW sending on 2m.

  My current problem is that I just moved into a new apartment, and I swear my next door neighbor must have a Van der Graff generator turned on with the knob set to "incinerate". For most of the day (seems to let off in late evening), I've got broadband S9+ (sometimes literally pegging the meter) noise all the way from DC to Daylight.

-=jeff=-

"Hare, Ed, W1RFI" wrote:
>
> >From the reports I have received, the DSL would not have caused that. The
> problem was probably the in-home network. Has anyone else experienced such
> problems? Can you supply info about the devices in question?
>
> 73,
> Ed Hare, W1RFI
> ARRL Laboratory Supervisor
> 225 Main St
> Newington, CT 06111
> Tel: 860-594-0318
> FAX: 860-594-0259
> Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org
> ARRL Web: http://www.arrl.org
> ARRL Technical Information Service: http://www.arrl.org/tis/
>

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE [mailto:wb5rue@stic.net]
> Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2000 10:07 PM
> To: w1rfi@arrl.org; 'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'
> Subject: RE: DSL?
>
> I had a "neighbor" some quarter of a mile away install DSL and a small
> in-home network in his house. He was only in this house for a period of six
> months while he did some work for the county. During this time I was
> "blessed" with S5 to S9 noise levels from 160-2 meters. It was severe
> enough on 2 meters to prevent me from doing any real DX SSB. I helped him
> shield his network cables by using some shielded twisted pair lines but the
> DSL still gave me severe noise all across HF. SO, if you want to "abandon"
> HF or at least weak signal HF DSL will be fine. (sarcasm)
>
> 72/73
> Kevin, WB5RUE
>
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
> > [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
> > Hare, Ed, W1RFI
> > Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2000 5:56 PM
> > To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> > Subject: RE: DSL?
> >
> >
> > While we are on the subject of DSL, can anyone share with me
> > any reports of
> > AM BC and HF noise levels before and after a DSL installation?
> >
> > I would be especially interested in any VDSL reports.
> >
> > 73,
> > Ed Hare, W1RFI
> > ARRL Laboratory Supervisor
> > 225 Main St
> > Newington, CT 06111
> > Tel: 860-594-0318
> > FAX: 860-594-0259
> > Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org
> > ARRL Web: http://www.arrl.org
> > ARRL Technical Information Service: http://www.arrl.org/tis/
> >
> >
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: James Skalski [mailto:jskalski@localnet.com]

> > Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2000 6:44 PM
> > To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> > Subject: OT: DSL?
> >
> >
> > I am thinking of dumping my ISP and going to DSL. This would
> > allow me to
> > drop the dedicated phone line and the ISP charge.
> >
> > Does anyone have an opinion about whether I should get a splitter or
> > microfilters for my phones? I am close enough to the Phoneco
> > at 4900feet
> > for any type of DSL. I would probably opt for the cheapest
> > version which
> > would be about $49. That would bring it close to the cost of
> > a separate
> > phone and ISP. It would a performance increase of about 11X.
> >
> > What kinds of rates are you guys getting? Direct response might be
> > best. Although this list is internet based and might be useful info.
> >
> >   73,
> >
> >   Jim n2go
> >

--
+-------------------------------+-------------------------------+
Jeff Francis - KC0BWS/AE	
Sr. Systems Engineer	"The legitimate powers of
Nortel Networks / Shasta	government extend to such
Denver, CO USA DM79nr	acts only as are injurious
39d43m16.4s N 104d52m10.7s W	to others."
jfrancis@frii.com	-- Thomas Jefferson
http://www.frii.com/~jfrancis	
+-------------------------------+-------------------------------+

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 21:06:49 EDT
From: K1DXradio@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72704] SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <be.53753da.26798629@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, these old eyes successfully put the SMK-1 together, thanks to the fine job NorCal did on the project. The only glitches along the way was:

1 -- I dropped Q6 - not once, but my breath blew it off the table for a second fall and 20 min. or so to find it. If you built one of these, you know that handling Q6 is like picking fly dung out of black pepper with boxing gloves on.

2 -- Then, while inserting the circuit board into the case, I put too much strain on L5 and pulled a couple of wires loose. Once resoldered, it transmitted perfectly.

3 -- The receiver was dead. As it turned out, the circuit etch from L1 to VR1 was open-circuited. I checked for bad solder joints, but had to run a piece of wire-wrap wire under to board to complete the connection. Works, but sensitivity is poor.

The NJ QRP club did a superb job on the case. The base is light gray and the cover is Collins S-line panel dark gray. I use spray adhesive to attach the labels and it looks great. Congrats. to all who put these kits together for such a modest price.

Performance: I measure 20v p-p across a 50 ohm load. It appears that it's pushing about a watt out. The receiver's performance is quite poor. I think it should have more sensitivity. What are your experiences? Power out? Receiver performance?

72 - George

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 21:08:08 EDT
From: Nv4t@aol.com
To: w1rfi@arrl.org, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72705] Re: Touch-Controlled Lamps RFI
Message-ID: <78.69e3634.26798678@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The article is agood one-- the repair WORKS!!!!

73, Bill nv4t

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 01:39:38 -0400

From: Richard Arland <k7sz@epix.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, tentec <tentec@contesting.com>, tentec list <tentec@qth.net>
Subject: [72706] WTB: Argo 509
Message-ID: <39486C1A.47E443E0@epix.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Looking for a nice Argonaut 509 with no mods for a friend of mine. Unit must be excellent to mint cosmetically and electrically working.

Personal e-mail only, please. AND...no e-bay prices...I was born at night but NOT last night!

73 Rich K7SZ

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 22:35:02 EDT
From: BenNW7DX@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72707] Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
Message-ID: <17.6e20613.26799ad6@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello -
     I am in the process of building a ZM-2 and I just finished puting the white panel sticker onto the metal panel. I will be puting a few coats of clear lacquer onto this, and I am wondering what kind of lacquer you guys recommend. I've used some clear stuff before, but it wasn't really "clear" at all... it had a yellowish tint to it. What have you guys found to work well?

Thanks,
Ben - NW7DX

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 22:33:52 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72708] Re: Surface Mounted Parts Shortage
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000614223352.0079bd60@vmspop.rit.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 02:42 PM 6/14/00 -0700, you wrote:
>Interesting article. Among other things, this designer
>complains that the shortage is on **surface mounted parts**
>and not the through hole ones.

Dan,

I'm beginning to suspect it's industry-wide, not just through-hole vs surface mount parts.

I just found out at work that the static RAMs we designed into our current project are not going to be available. (After we already bought 500 of them.) It seems that some unnamed video-game producer in the Far East gets dibs on everything the chip manufacturer can turn out.

Anybody want to buy a power meter that plays Tetris?

Dave

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 23:20:10 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72709] DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <36.744a300.2679a56a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was hoping you folks that have used the DK9SQ mast backpacking might share the support system used. Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to vertical post such as fence post or tree stump. and (2) use of guy ring/guy lines. Are these the best or is there some other ingenious method for the backpacker?

Alan KB7MBI

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 23:31:29 EDT
From: GElam30092@aol.com
To: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72710] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <17.6e0db4e.2679a811@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 6/14/00 8:21:51 PM US Mountain Standard Time,
ARDUJENSKI@aol.com writes:

<< Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to
 vertical post such as fence post or tree stump. and (2) use of guy ring/guy
 lines. Are these the best or is there some other ingenious method for the
 backpacker? >>

Exactly. I've used a rubber strap like truckers' use on both the back of my SUV with the bottom inside resting on the deck of the rear and the strap running around a rear hand support. About three turns around it from top to bottom will do.

I've also used a rail support on my parents' back deck when visiting them also. Unless it's windy, it really doesn't require a lot of support.

When at home, I have a couple of metal straps fastened to the rear property block wall.

Cheers,
Gerry, K7LRO
PHX AZ

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 03:41:42 +0000
From: Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72711] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <39480A26.724B8CCB@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

How about a strap to the backpack frame?
You could rig it to form a tripod with the mast as one leg
and the frame rails of the backpack as the other two. This
should make a pretty good support without adding a lot of weight
beyond that of the mast itself.

michael N6CHV

ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:
>

> I was hoping you folks that have used the DK9SQ mast backpacking might share
> the support system used. Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to
> vertical post such as fence post or tree stump. and (2) use of guy ring/guy
> lines. Are these the best or is there some other ingenious method for the
> backpacker?
>
> Alan KB7MBI

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 23:48:47 -0400
From: Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72712] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
Message-ID: <3.0.32.20000614234453.00739390@kih.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:35 PM 6/14/00 EDT, you wrote:
>Hello -
>   I am in the process of building a ZM-2 and I just finished puting the
>white panel sticker onto the metal panel. I will be puting a few coats of
>clear lacquer onto this, and I am wondering what kind of lacquer you guys
>recommend. I've used some clear stuff before, but it wasn't really "clear"
>at all... it had a yellowish tint to it. What have you guys found to work
>well?
>
>Thanks,
>Ben - NW7DX

Ben,
The Datak products are great and not aggresive on labeling.
At least not on their dry-transfer labels. I had bad luck with
Krylon.
The Datak spray comes in either a glossy or flat finish spray can.
As usual, always check by spraying on a sample.
Usual disclaimer....just a fan.
73 Pete NV4V

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 04:58:52 +0100
From: "merryprankster" <merryprankster@cwcom.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [72713] help needed please with DTMF decoding
Message-ID: <00f101bfd67e$292cf9e0$95c92cc3@y0y2a7>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello all, not strictly QRP but I promise to keep the watts down. Does any one know of a circuit for the decoding of DTMF code using the decoder chip HT9170. I am doing a few experiments, for the controlling of lights on and off.. Music on and off while out, on over night, early morning, DXexpeditions. I live in a dodgy area and would like to give some presence / impression that some one is at home. I think this DTMF coding will do the trick, if I can find how to switch a relay and timer with it. Where I go to DX, is a hill top only five miles or so away. So can reach home on most bands. Any help most welcome feel free to mail, as I have noticed is usual, if any one else is interested in the project. I will post on the list for all to read.
Also, a hologram image of the car / or a rhotwiller rottenwelly rottewheler ??? German Shepherd Dog!! Would be use full?? Thanks from Bob M5BOB

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 00:42:10 -0400
From: osier <osier@northnet.org>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72714] 5T5U log search
Message-ID: <39485EA2.A4EDED66@northnet.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All !!!!

Wondering if anyone knows of a log search for 5T5U ????
The one on the "unofficial" site is not up ....
OR has anyone seen any of thier cards ?????

73s
George , N2JNZ/QRP

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 00:52:34 -0400
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72715] w/r ant "turkey shoot"
Message-ID: <20000615.005235.-225515.0.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

High y'alls
     sry to post again however I is all excited with my funny 20 mtr wire ant... poland, russia, check... and more just fell by the wayside at 5 watts tonite... I tried cq at 1 watt but only watched the waterfall fall....
     I did answer a cq by an sp i think... but only got a qrz at 1 watt... but got the sucker at 5w... with a 55 or so...
     haven't had this feeling of "power" since I had my 3 element quad up 25ft in louisiana... had the argo 509 back then... man I worked everywhere... course it was easier to turn with the rotator... here it's a two to three hour process and then it's stateside or maybe over alsaska towards japan...
     anyhow... it's midnite here and i'm going to try 40 cw and see what happens... three elements up 45 ft or so makes for much fun at 5w...
     mucho el grande meaux joe from maine
ke1la joel
in maine
having fun

_____
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 01:00:31 EDT
From: Wb8siw@aol.com
To: BenNW7DX@aol.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72716] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
Message-ID: <98.6553582.2679bcef@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 06/14/2000 10:36:41 PM Eastern Daylight Time, BenNW7DX@aol.com writes:

<< Hello -
      I am in the process of building a ZM-2 and I just finished puting the white panel sticker onto the metal panel. I will be puting a few coats of clear lacquer onto this, and I am wondering what kind of lacquer you guys recommend. I've used some clear stuff before, but it wasn't really "clear" at all... it had a yellowish tint to it. What have you guys found to work well?

Thanks,
Ben - NW7DX >>

Hi Ben:

I haven't built the ZM-2. However, over the years I have used a number of different varnishes and lacquers purchased at Art and Drafting Supply houses for similar projects. Quality products by Grumbacher or Damar should provide an excellent finish and best of all, they don't "yellow." Finishes include "glossy" and "matte" or flat.

While it is likely to be available locally, nonetheless, here are a couple of web sites for such products (no sales pitch here):

http://www.dixieart.com/FineArts/Oil_and_Watercolor_Mediums_by_Winsor_Newton_and_Grumbacher.html

http://www.reuels.com/reuels/page217.html

73, Jim WB8SIW

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 01:17:33 EDT
From: Wb8siw@aol.com
To: merryprankster@cwcom.net, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72717] OT: help needed please with DTMF decoding
Message-ID: <ae.66bee84.2679c0ed@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 06/14/2000 11:54:23 PM Eastern Daylight Time, merryprankster@cwcom.net writes:

<< Also, a hologram image of the car / or a rhotwiller rottenwelly rottewheler ??? German Shepherd Dog!! Would be use full?? Thanks from Bob M5BOB >>

I think it was Malcolm X, who, when reminiscing about his misguided youth and his activities as a burglar related the story about a very creative homeowner. In an attempt to give the house a "lived-in" look, the owner developed a rather unique "anti-burglary" device consisting of an old-fashioned 33 1/3 RPM turntable equipped with cutout cardboard figures illuminated by a spotlight facing the window. Through the use of a timer, each night the music came on, and the window would have the appearance of a young couple dancing.

Of course, ol' Mal wasn't stupid. No one ever dances the same to every tune, nor do they listen to the same selections over and over again. I don't recall whether or not he took the stereo along with the rest of the goods.

Perhaps today, with CDs, computers, and so forth, you can do a respectable job of fooling even an intelligent burglar! LOL.

73, Jim

Date: Wed, 14 Jun 2000 22:22:44 -0700 (MST)
From: Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
To: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72718] Re: Surface Mounted Parts Shortage
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.1000614221939.18503B-100000@usr08.primenet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

    And porcelain capacitors (for microwave circuit manufacturing), and chip thermistors, and chip resistors...

    At work we've slowly watched the entire industry coming to a slow, grinding halt as one component after another becomes scarce. And the alternative sources are slowly drying up as well. Seems that the whole world has gone wireless happy.

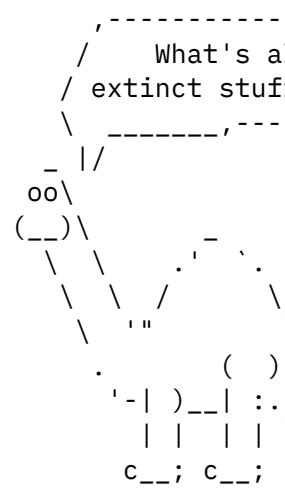
    The real shock came when Ericsson bought out 60% of the production of ATC chip capacitors for the next 6 years. Before too long, none of us will be producing anything.

Chris

On Wed, 14 Jun 2000, David Hinerman wrote:

> At 02:42 PM 6/14/00 -0700, you wrote:
> >Interesting article. Among other things, this designer
> >complains that the shortage is on **surface mounted parts**
> >and not the through hole ones.
>
> Dan,
>
> I'm beginning to suspect it's industry-wide, not just through-hole vs surface mount parts.

>
> I just found out at work that the static RAMs we designed into our current project are not going to be available. (After we already bought 500 of them.) It seems that some unnamed video-game producer in the Far East gets dibs on everything the chip manufacturer can turn out.
>
> Anybody want to buy a power meter that plays Tetris?
>
> Dave
>
>



High Performance Mixers and
Amplifiers for RF Communications

Chris Trask / N7ZWY
Principal Engineer
Sonoran Radio Research
P.O. Box 25240
Tempe, Arizona 85285-5240

IEEE Member #40274515

Email: ctrask@primenet.com
http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 01:35:32 -0400
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72719] 40 mtr dx
Message-ID: <20000615.013633.-207995.0.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

high again
     it's about 130 am here in maine... just worked f8fo on 7.030 or there abouts on cw
his name jean... I got a 599 at 5w... he was 58 to 59 at 100w on a long

wire...
     wire and rope seems to be getting me across the pond on a regular basis on 40 mtr... never had such good success on 40 before... except once in Louisiana with a 66ft vertical... voltage fed, with radials, gnd mounted, actually it sat on top of a king size coke bottle, worked great as an insulator...course back then I was running about 100 watts...
     anybody got a 100watt rig they might want to put on this ant... sure woud be interesting to see what the signal would do.... max I can go here is 10 watts...however the ant makes that a rare event... tell u man, woman... a good ant sure makes working dx or anybody a bunch easier... less rf sent in unwanted directions too... so i cause less qrm to folk what i an't talking to at the time....
     well it's late and I gotta go get some sleep... gotta drive to Bangor Maine tomorrow...
bout a two hour drive from hr... one way....
be good and Mary... working on that article for u... keep the faith...
hee hee
ke1la joel
in maine
feeling good bout this ant 'spearment

_____
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
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Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 02:14:00 -0400 (EDT)
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
To: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72720] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.10006150204.D19585-0100000@bc.seflin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 14 Jun 2000 ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:
>
> I was hoping you folks that have used the DK9SQ mast backpacking might share
> the support system used. Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to
In Freeport, Grand Bahama, K7RE and I used bathroom vent pipes on the roof of the hotel to support our two masts. I fabricated the supports with two foot long pieces of aluminum tubing strapped side by side with large hose clamps. One piece was the right size to fit inside the vent pipe. The other's ID was the right size to slip the mast through. The masts go up in seconds and the support is quite sturdy.

73,
,'' '',
Bob Patten, N4BP (0 0) Plantation, FL
_____oOOo-(_)-oOO_____

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org
Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/n4bp
Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715
SOC #1 Whiners #6

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 07:48:18 -0400
From: Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72721] RE: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <01BFD69E.12A14940.ripowell@mpna.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I used mine this past weekend in the field while supporting the MS-150 bike ride....

On saturday, i had 3 antenna's on it! a 2M 1/2 wave antenna near the very tip top of the mast,
a 2M 1/2 coax dipole (vertical) just below that,,,,
and a 40M inverted V..
the mast was supported by tieing in 3 places to a 5 foot section of 1.25 inch pipe, that was connected to one of the "park your car on this" boards...
it worked ok (small ok not OK, just ok) until the wind started blowing,,,,
the 40M inverted V and feedline were used as a kind of 'guy wire' system, which helped..
BUT it really was too much.

then sunday,,,,
i only had the 2, 2M antennas on it,,, same positions,,, and this time i used an existing structure (8 foot sign pole) as a stabilization structure.
the sign pole was a 4X4 inch hunk of wood!!! not some little piece of pipe!
WHAT A DIFFERENCE!!!! i guess the 40M inverted V along with the 2 other antennas, and their feedlines was just a little much! cause sunday it was
sweet!!! stable, no guys, it rocked!

I don't use bungee cord.. i used rope... that way it's a little more stable.
hope that helps

72 & oo's
/rikc
-
Richard Powell, WB6JBM, TENTEN 13044, QRP-L 1118,
FPQRP-2, QRP-ARCI 10414
Senior Network Engineer, Belcan IT Division
MCSE, CNA.
ripowell@mpna.com http://www.mpna.com/ripowell

On Wednesday, June 14, 2000 11:20 PM, ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
[SMTP:ARDUJENSKI@aol.com] wrote:
> I was hoping you folks that have used the DK9SQ mast backpacking might
share
> the support system used. Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to
> vertical post such as fence post or tree stump. and (2) use of guy
ring/guy
> lines. Are these the best or is there some other ingenious method for the
> backpacker?
>
> Alan KB7MBI

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 04:51:11 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
To: MADSENANDREW@netscape.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72722] Re: A source for crystals
Message-ID: <20000615115111.29392.qmail@web3005.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Andrew,

Looks like NORCAL is still selling a couple of
crystals for 40m. Check out the bottom of the page
at:

http://www.fix.net/~jparker/norcal/kits/kits.htm

=====
73,
Steve Yates - AA5TB
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs
http://www.geocities.com/aa5tb

aa5tb@arrl.net

_____

_____
Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Photos -- now, 100 FREE prints!
http://photos.yahoo.com

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:32:52 EDT
From: K1DXradio@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72723] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <de.653a6e3.267a26f4@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just tested the SMK-1 for output power using my YP-150 dummy load/meter. I read about 1/3 watt, which is the published output. So, either my scope is lying or my calculations are off when I reported 1 watt out. Either way, the SMK-1 performs as claimed.

I'm not sure I'd build another surface-mount kit because of the difficulty in seeing and handling small parts. If you want a small radio, this certainly is the way to go.

72 - George

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:57:34 -0400
From: Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu, njqrp@njqrp.org
Subject: [72724] [CONTEST] QRP Contesting - This Weekend
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000615085734.0093ad90@mail.citnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

~~~~~~

QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

June 17/18, 2000

~~~~~~

All Asian DX Contest (CW)

Jun 17 - 0000z to Jun 28 - 2400z

Rules: http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/allasia.txt

~~~~~~

West Virginia QSO Party (SSB/CW)

Jun 17 - 1800z to 2400z

Rules: http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/jun.html

~~~~~~

Kid's Day (SSB)

Jun 17 - 1800z to 2400z

Rules: http://www.arrl.org/ead/kd-rules.html

~~~~~~

AND LATER.................

~~~~~~

SP QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Jun 24 - 1200z to Jun 25 - 1200z

Rules: http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/spqrp.txt

~~~~~~

Marconi Memorial Contest (CW) ... QRP Category

Jun 24 - 1400z to Jun 25 1400z

Rules: http://www.qsl.net/ik6ptj/marconi.htm

~~~~~~

ARRL Field Day (CW/SSB/RTTY)... QRP Category

Jun 24 - 1800z to Jun 25 - 2100z

Rules: http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-fd.html

~~~~~~

QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day (ALL)... QRP Contest!

Jun 24 - 1800z to Jun 25 - 2100z

Rules: http://www.qrparci.org/mwfd.htm

~~~~~~

72 de
Ken Newman - N2CQ
Woodbury, NJ
N2CQ@ARRL.NET

== QRP CONTEST CALENDAR ==
http://www.njqrp.org/data/contesting.html

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:27:21 -0500
From: Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
To: K1DXradio@aol.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72725] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.20000615082721.00a85ec0@hiwaay.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 08:32 AM 6/15/00 EDT, you wrote:
>I'm not sure I'd build another surface-mount kit because of the difficulty
in
>seeing and handling small parts. If you want a small radio, this certainly
is
>the way to go.
>
>72 - George
.....

Similar statements have been made by hams since the beginning of radio. I said it about transistors, when they were replacing vacuum tubes in our hobby. I think I said something similar when computers came along.

Agreed, the parts are tiny and handling is a challenge, but looks like it is the future.

Looking a few years down the road as things further advance, here is what I expect for QRPers. . . . .

Strung up high behind Joe QRPer's house is a single dipole wire antenna with a noticeable, but small center connector, but no feed line. A closer look at the center connector reveals that it is covered with hi-capacity solar cells. The center connector is a weather proof housing and inside is a digital cw transceiver with built in keyer and antenna match and a uhf tranceiver for communication with Joe's portable remote control. His remote control is a tiny device that is a monitor with frequency and audio control for the cw transceiver. The remote has no need for a morse key since it receives input directly from Joe's brain waves and converts them to morse code. Joe is no longer shack bound while operating HF QRP CW.

I was just noticing the other day, my big old straight key sure does look antique and oversized sitting next to my SMK-1.

73,

Richard WA4NWW

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 09:56:27 -0400
From: "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
To: <plburbank@kih.net>
Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72726] Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
Message-ID: <000601bfd6d1$808d0e20$5c32a7d0@ispchannel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Pete:

Year's ago, when I worked at a coil company (honest, it was Automatic Coil Co. of Mineola, NY), we used a product called Q-dope to secure windings on coils, toroids, etc. It was a relatively clear varnish-like coating material. The plant manager gave me a jar of the stuff to take home.

I used it to cover labels and decals on my homebrew and store-boughten gear. It gave the labels a slightly yellow color, but they never wore off. I only wish now that I had used it on all of the indicators and controls on some of

my old equipment that I still have; some of the markings are worn thin or completely off my old SX-99's bandswitch and volume control, for example.

Terrific stuff. I wonder if anyone on the list knows if it's still available.

-- Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687   .-.-.

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:02:08 -0400
From: "K.Edwards" <kedwards@mindspring.com>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72727] DSW-20 Troubleshooting Help
Message-ID: <LPBBKBACONDDJLDHFLPAMEFHCCAA.kedwards@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi guys!
I recently acquired a used DSW-20 (sweet little rig) but have already managed to create a problem!
The radio fired up fine - power out about 2.5W, received fine, good sidetone. I shut it down, and when I powered up later, there was no sidetone. The receiver was still fine, there was power output and the keyer worked.
I tried reinserting all the peripherals (power, key, antenna, headphones) thinking it was somehow attributable to a bad connection. Of course, no difference (still no sidetone).
Then I tried the calibrate feature (powering up while holding in on the keyer button). This generates a beat signal permitting sidetone calibration. It worked- got a loud beat signal.
To revert back to normal operation, you cycle the power, which I did.
The problem now is the beat signal is ALWAYS present! I cannot get the rig out of the calibration mode.
Any thoughts for this feeble minded person?

Thanks...
--Ken

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:11:12 -0400
From: John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
To: prm@hiwaay.net

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72728] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <3948E400.14990391@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I will respectfully disagree with Richard about SMD being the future of homebrewers/QRP'ers. Granted, the SMK-1 is my first and only SMD kit, so maybe my observations are off a little...

1. It's difficult to follow the circuit on the board. I don't feel I learned much about the circuit from building it, rather I learned from the schematic. I think the building process is the culmination of studying the circuit and applying it - a useful step; however I found with the SMK-1 it was more an exercise in caution and instruction following. I felt I learned very little about the circuit while building it.

2. Some of the parts are not marked and unrecognizable. Backtracking may be impossible if a mistake is made. If there were more parts on the SMK-1, I'm certain I would have eventually made a mistake and fixing it might have been impossible. It's true there are through-hole parts without markings, but you stand a much better chance of ID'ing them from shape.

3. Although it's probably possible to do SMD "ugly style", I don't think it would be nearly as easy or useful. I say useful because modifying an "ugly style" project with leads is probably much easier and figuring out what it does would be much easier.

4. My take on the SMD parts is they serve two purposes; they are easier for machines to manipulate and they reduce the size of products. We are not machines and have real physical limitations and I don't think QRP rigs were ever big enough to warrant going to SMD to make them smaller.

5. I applied the NB6M's 1w mod, and I found it difficult to modify the kit after the fact. I'm not a watch builder, eh?!

If SMD is the future of the homebrewing hobby (and I don't think it is), only the hardcore will stay in it. I myself didn't enjoy building the SMK-1 nearly as much as the other QRP rigs I've built. I'm not slighting the radio or the kit, I happen to love it, but I found the construction of it very difficult and the learning from it minimal.

I do want to reiterate that I like the SMK-1, I'm glad I built it. The kitting job was magnificent, the radio works (well), and I plan on using it for a good long time.

73,

John, KB1ENS

Richard Matthews wrote:
>
> At 08:32 AM 6/15/00 EDT, you wrote:
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> >
> >72 - George
> .....
>
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> for the cw transceiver. The remote has no need for a morse key since it
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> code. Joe is no longer shack bound while operating HF QRP CW.
>
> I was just noticing the other day, my big old straight key sure does look
> antique and oversized sitting next to my SMK-1.
>
> 73,
>
> Richard WA4NWW

--
John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com
Web page: http://www.neknetwork.com

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Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:27:51 EDT
From: K5KW@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72729] Q-Dope Available
Message-ID: <38.73f0975.267a41e7@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Alex, AI2Q, Wrote:

<....we used a product called Q-dope to secure windings on
coils, toroids, etc. It was a relatively clear varnish-like coating
material. >
. . . . . .
<Terrific stuff. I wonder if anyone on the list knows if it's still
available.>

Alex,

It sure is! I found some at an electronic wholesale store,
Radio, Inc., in Tulsa. Q-Dope, by GC Electronics. Don't
know if GC Electronics sells direct, but, if not, perhaps they
could point you to a nearby dealer. I'll bet some of the mail-order
suppliers even carry it. The manufacturer's address on the bottle
of Q-Dope is is:

GC Electronics
A Division of GC Thorsen, Inc.
1801 Morgan Street
Rockford, IL 61102-2690

If you can't find a source of it, I'll get a bottle of it for you
next time I'm in Tulsa and mail it to you.

72,

Don, K5KW

"From Meadowlark Aerodrome on the rippling shores of Lake Eva, in the heart
of the Morris-Boynton metroplex of east central Oklahoma, where every day is
a sunny day".

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:36:22 -0400
From: Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72730] RE: Q-Dope Available
Message-ID: <01BFD6B5.8D653CB0.ripowell@mpna.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

don't forget about conformal coating stuff available from MG chemicals!

On Thursday, June 15, 2000 10:28 AM, K5KW@aol.com [SMTP:K5KW@aol.com] wrote:
> Alex, AI2Q, Wrote:
>
> <....we used a product called Q-dope to secure windings on
> coils, toroids, etc. It was a relatively clear varnish-like coating
> material. >
> . . . . . .
> <Terrific stuff. I wonder if anyone on the list knows if it's still
> available.>
>
> Alex,
>
> It sure is! I found some at an electronic wholesale store,
> Radio, Inc., in Tulsa. Q-Dope, by GC Electronics. Don't
> know if GC Electronics sells direct, but, if not, perhaps they
> could point you to a nearby dealer. I'll bet some of the mail-order
> suppliers even carry it. The manufacturer's address on the bottle
> of Q-Dope is is:
>
> GC Electronics
> A Division of GC Thorsen, Inc.
> 1801 Morgan Street
> Rockford, IL 61102-2690
>
> If you can't find a source of it, I'll get a bottle of it for you
> next time I'm in Tulsa and mail it to you.
>
> 72,
>
> Don, K5KW
>
> "From Meadowlark Aerodrome on the rippling shores of Lake Eva, in the heart
> of the Morris-Boynton metroplex of east central Oklahoma, where every day is
> a sunny day".

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:06:38 -0700
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
To: ai2q@ispchannel.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72731] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
Message-ID: <3948F0FE.B91CFD9D@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You can find it at this URL: http://209.15.35.110/GC.htm
--
72.....Roger

Roger Hightower, N7KT   Mesa, AZ K2#591   SOC #14

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:12:06 -0700
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
To: ELECRAFT <elecraft@qth.net>, QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [72732] Q-Dope and other questions
Message-ID: <3948F246.91696EAC@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Many of the questions on sources of materials and information can be
quickly answered with the use of a good search engine.

I don't remember who posted this, but the best source I have found is
Google. http://www.google.com and then download/install Google search.

If you search for Q-Dope, you'll be given URLs for sources, as well as
uses, including stuff from QRP ARCI, NJQRP, NorCal and others.

This is a great search engine. I can find the info I need faster there
than if I post to the list.

Whoever posted the original hint, thanks. It's a gen.
--
72.....Roger

Roger Hightower, N7KT   Mesa, AZ K2#591   SOC #14

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:14:13 -0700
From: "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72733] SMK 1w Mod.
Message-ID: <60F1FEB31CA3D211A1B60008C7A45F430997FF1B@blaze.bcsc.GOV.BC.CA>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I was away for the last week and had the list shut down. I must have missed the 1w mod for the SMK-1. Would someone please re-post this so I can have a go at it? Thanks in advance.

Doug VA7DD

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 11:18:05 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: wb1hbe@arrl.net
Subject: [72734] [CW NET] New England QRP Club
Message-ID: <200006151518.LAA18123@world.std.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

Tonight at 9pm EDT (0100z Friday) will be the NE QRP Club net on
3561 Mhz. The guest op this week will be John, WB1HBE. All are welcome
to stop by, and say hello.

--
/joel K1QM (k1 queen mary), Concord, MA.
QRP-L #337, QRP-ARCI #9305, MI-QRP #1641

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 08:26:20 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72735] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope (Finger Nail Polish)
Message-ID: <20000615152620.12935.qmail@web3004.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I've had good success using my wife's clear finger
nail polish for protecting rubbed on lettering and
coating toroid windings to hold them in place. I was
concerned originally with the dielectric constant and
loss factor when I started using the stuff on coils
but I have had no ill effects yet. I still don't know
the electrical parameters but it sure is tuff stuff.

I have a bottle of Q-Dupe that I have used in the past
but I've always had problems with that stuff flaking
off. I may just have a bad batch though.

=====
73,
Steve Yates - AA5TB
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs
http://www.geocities.com/aa5tb
aa5tb@arrl.net

_____

_____
Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Photos -- now, 100 FREE prints!
http://photos.yahoo.com

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:28:04 -0500
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72736] SMK-1 - comments continued
Message-ID: <008401bfd6de$a9062820$0200000a@mcg.net>

John Wagner, KB1ENS has made some very good points in his message "Subject:
RE: SMK-1 finished and running - comments". I'm sure Doug will value the
input for future kits. But I think we have to remember what this kit was
designed to do.

It was not designed to be a circuit learning experience. It's an SMT clone of
the Tuna Tin Two transmitter and the MRX receiver which are fully documented
elsewhere. The only thing "new" here is the T/R switch and mute function,

both of which are also commonly used and discussed in previous kits and circuits.

This kit was designed to do two things, test the packaging of an SMT kit and provide basic SMT building technique experience. I think it met those goals quite well. Things that were learned here will make the forthcoming Norcal SMT kit much better. Despite the fact that some have reported they don't care for SMT, they did succeed and complete the SMK-1.

It's not a question of whether thru-hole parts will become extinct, they will. It's a question of when. Maybe some of us will not see the day that this happens, after all you can still buy new tubes. But, newer devices, which may provide less expensive ways of achieving a goal, are already being produced only in SMT. Just as we have a segment of homebrewers building "Glowbugs" radios that "glow in the dark", we will probably develop a segment that for one reason or another continues with leaded parts, maybe they will be build "Legbugs".

It's also very possible to use other construction techniques with SMT. Ugly construction can be used with the SMD's being soldered to the ground plane with other parts soldered on as "bridges". Manhattan style lends itself well to SMT by using very thin PCB material for the pads. Homebrew circuit boards are by far easier to make for SMT than thru-hole. Another approach might be to setup a jig and add leads to SMT parts. Higher temp solder could be used to attach the leads and lower temp solder to make the interconnections. I haven't tried this, it just came to mind. If fact if you look closely at many leaded parts you can see that this is what they already are except they are dipped in epoxy afterwards. One major drawback to SMD is they are not as reusable as leaded parts. Still I think we will find that SMD's will be much cheaper than leaded components in the not to distant future. And as I have said before, it's never been as inexpensive to build your own equipment as it is today. So if we had to remove and throw away parts to make a modification, I don't see that as a big deal.

I have read with interest the experiences with the SMK-1 posted to the list. Of those that are not impressed, please remember that all new activities have a learning curve. Finding the tools and techniques that allow you to do SMT may take awhile and may not be how others find it easier. Currently I've been doing it using a magnifying lamp. I don't like that as the lamp in often in my way. I have yet to try the magnifying visor but intend to for the next project. I've also purchased a new and more sturdy tweezers as I had some trouble with the ones I was using. Since that purchase someone on the list posted about using a wooden skewer with some sticky goop of some kind on the end. This looks like the technique I will actually try next. I may never use the new tweezers. Such is the way the learning process goes.

Of course, some people are simply not going to do SMT and currently you have that choice. Five years from now, maybe not.

---
73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus
ka0gkc@arrl.net
MNQRP #1
Minnesota QRP'ers we're looking for you!
Email me or visit this page http://www.qsl.net/mnqrpcom

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 11:48:00 -0700
From: "Larry Acklin" <larrya@compu-fixinc.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72737] Re: Clear Lacquer and Q-dope
Message-ID: <005901bfd6fc$65283620$0400a8c0@larrya98>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK, now my 2 cents- product is HUMISEAL conformal coating by Columbia Chase Corp. (professional dip/spray) that makes boards water/humid proof. Yields a rather thick coating that to my recollection is clear or nearly so. I have a can or two from long ago. Our Steel mill user types could IMMERSE a working 5W transmitter and it would function FB when the other stuff dried out. The boards never suffered from the water after we started using this stuff. Also you can "solder thru" to replace components, and reseal with another spray.

73
Larry KB3CUF

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 11:29:25 +0000
From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: merryprankster@cwcom.net
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72738] Re: help needed please with DTMF decoding
Message-ID: <200006151607.MAA05235@wolf.ncia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> Hello all, not strictly QRP but I promise to keep the watts down. Does any
> one know of a circuit for the decoding of DTMF code using the decoder chip
> HT9170. I am doing a few experiments, for the controlling of lights on and

I'm not familer with a HT9170, but lets assume it is like other DTMF
decoders in that it has BCD outputs and a data valid strobe. Adding a
four bit latch and a bcd to decmal decoder would allow you to control
ten things.

Personally, I'd wire the decoder to a microprocessor. Then the uP
could be programmed to do all kinds of things, limited only by one's
imagination or programming abilities.

Or, you could get your own mean, lean guard dog....

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 11:29:26 +0000
From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: john@neknetwork.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72739] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <200006151607.MAA05210@wolf.ncia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

John,
A few comments on your comments..

> 1. It's difficult to follow the circuit on the board. I don't feel I
> learned much about the circuit from building it, rather I learned from
> the schematic....[snip]

I think this is generaly true no matter what type of parts are used.
The only thing one learns building a circuit is how to build it. One
learns how it works from the schematic and troubleshoting it when it
doesn't work right.

> 2. Some of the parts are not marked and unrecognizable. Backtracking may

Id'ing parts comes with experiance. True for any kind of part. Caps
are unmarked, but easy to identify by thier color. A cap meter is
needed to find thier value.
>
> 3. Although it's probably possible to do SMD "ugly style", I don't think
> it would be nearly as easy or useful. I say useful because modifying an
> "ugly style" project with leads is probably much easier and figuring out
> what it does would be much easier.
>
I'll have to agree with John on this one. It is possible, but time
consuming. Not too practical except for very simple circuits.
Tracing out a SMT circuit to figure out what it does or how it works
is also not easy, especially if it's a multilayer board and you can't
see many of the interconnections.

> If SMD is the future of the homebrewing hobby (and I don't think it is),

It will be some time, if ever, before thru-hole parts become
completely obsolete, but by then many of us woun't have to worry
about it anyway, eh? If I had a DX-100, it would make a dandy
tomestone :-)

In the mean time, building with SMT parts will become more and more
common. As we gain more experiance using these parts, they woun't
seem so bad after all...

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 12:09:01 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72740] Re: DSW-20 Troubleshooting Help
Message-ID: <000601bfd6e4$07648920$2d0a05cc@rochester.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> To revert back to normal operation, you cycle the power, which I did.
> The problem now is the beat signal is ALWAYS present! I cannot get the
> rig out of the calibration mode.
> Any thoughts for this feeble minded person?

Ken,

Maybe try blowing it out with compressed air? Sometimes moving a computer-controlled device dislodges dust or other particles that can short out high-impedance circuits.

Not that I'm familiar with the DSW series - it was just a thought.

Dave

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 12:31:21 -0400
From: John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
To: kd1jv@moose.ncia.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72741] Re: SMK-1 finished and running - comments
Message-ID: <394904D9.BBC80245@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Steve,

Steven Weber wrote:
>
> John,
> A few comments on your comments..
>
> > 1. It's difficult to follow the circuit on the board. I don't feel I
> > learned much about the circuit from building it, rather I learned from
> > the schematic....[snip]
>
> I think this is generaly true no matter what type of parts are used.
> The only thing one learns building a circuit is how to build it. One
> learns how it works from the schematic and troubleshoting it when it
> doesn't work right.

I disagree. I think you learn how the parts physically interact and electronically interact. Visually backing up what you see on the schematic is important. I can't quite put my finger on it, but I felt more or less like an assembly worker then someone learning about a circuit. I realize the gist of the SMK-1 wasn't to teach about the circuit, but in reality that's why most people build kits. If the build process has been reduced to pure frustration, it's really not worth doing. I build to back up what I've learned - not to learn how to build.

> > 2. Some of the parts are not marked and unrecognizable. Backtracking may
>
> Id'ing parts comes with experiance. True for any kind of part. Caps
> are unmarked, but easy to identify by thier color. A cap meter is
> needed to find thier value.

Granted, experience helps with anything. However, I think you'll find
less people wanting to get the experience needed if the parts are the
size of a flea. I've been working with my son (and learning myself!)
with small circuits on a breadboard - doing that with SMD's would be a
waste of time.

> > 3. Although it's probably possible to do SMD "ugly style", I don't think
> > it would be nearly as easy or useful. I say useful because modifying an
> > "ugly style" project with leads is probably much easier and figuring out
> > what it does would be much easier.
> >
> I'll have to agree with John on this one. It is possible, but time
> consuming. Not too practical except for very simple circuits.
> Tracing out a SMT circuit to figure out what it does or how it works
> is also not easy, especially if it's a multilayer board and you can't
> see many of the interconnections.
>
> > If SMD is the future of the homebrewing hobby (and I don't think it is),
>
> It will be some time, if ever, before thru-hole parts become
> completely obsolete, but by then many of us woun't have to worry
> about it anyway, eh? If I had a DX-100, it would make a dandy
> tomestone :-)
>
> In the mean time, building with SMT parts will become more and more
> common. As we gain more experiance using these parts, they woun't
> seem so bad after all...

One instance where I think using SM parts would be cool (and possibly
more educational) would be building up the various parts of a radio on
separate boards and then mounting them to a backplane. That way the
modules could be swapped out as a whole rather then trying to maneuver
around the entire project. I think people are more leery of modifying
their SMK-1 because it's so small and one mistake could mean a disaster.
If the components could be swapped out easily, it may be more
customizable (and educational).

73,

John, KB1ENS

>
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
> "melt solder"

--
John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com
Web page: http://www.neknetwork.com
Sign up for PayPal:
https://secure.paypal.com/refer/pal=john%40neknetwork.com

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 12:32:27 EDT
From: NB6M@aol.com
To: ka0gkc@arrl.net, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72742] Re: SMK-1 - comments continued
Message-ID: <60.4172eef.267a5f1b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There have been some very good points in just about all the posts I've read recently about the surface mount SMK-1 and surface mount parts.

I think the visor type magnifier is definitely the way to go. I used it on my SMK and sometimes use it with other, leaded part, projects as well.

For some reason I didn't find the suface mount board any more difficult to read in terms of the circuit than a leaded part board. Neither one is laid out as the circuit is in the schematic, so I thought that both types presented equal difficulties in that regard.

Since I was one of the (very few) lucky people who got 470 ohm resistors instead of .1 caps in my kit and didn't discover it until after the rig was built, and with the work I have done in modifying SMK-1 a few times since then, I have gotten lots of practice at removing SMK parts with two soldering irons, even removing and re-using two of the transistors, Q-6 and Q-3. With the transistors, I unsoldered the single lead on one side first, gently prying that side up as I did so, and then worked on one of the other leads at a time.

I should note that, other than needing to replace all thirteen of the 470 ohm resistors with the .1 caps they were supposed to be, all the other part removal and replacement, etc, has been because of my wanting to do mods, and for experimentation. The little rig has worked fine and is a lot of fun on the air.

The good part is that I found that the parts I removed were perfectly re-usable. And even if you did destroy a part in removing it, and didn't have a like SM part, a leaded part could easily be soldered in its place so the circuit could keep right on working.

About the resistors instead of .1 Caps, there were just a few kits that got out before it was discovered, and I think Doug has identified them all at this point. Just to be sure, if you have not built your kit, take a look at the parts for item 6, the first compartment in bag one, and they should have no markings and should be greyish brown. If they are black, and have markings, they are resistors, hi. But, as I say, I feel pretty certain that Doug has identified those few kits already. As far as I know, there have been no other switches. So don't let that one little glitch deter you from building an SMK-1. They are a lot of fun.

72

Wayne NB6M

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 09:32:43 -0700
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72743] RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-000615163243Z-711@mail.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for reading!

I have a somewhat dumb question about RF voltmeters and scopes. I need to take some measurements on an older Yaesu FT757GXii and the tech manual requires these measurements to be taken with an RF voltmeter. I have a perfectly good scope - Tek TDS-210 - and was wondering if I couldn't use that instead of the RF voltmeter?? The TDS-210 will handle converting to RMS... Is this a good idea or is there something I'm missing??

Also, I will need to use an AF generator and was looking at my linux boxen with a soundcard installed. Gee, I said to myself, why couldn't I use the soundcard as the AF generator instead of spending a couple of hundred $$$ on some used equipment.

As you can probably tell, I'm looking to setup a decent test bench and

not go broke in the process! Thanks for any and all input! If there's an overwhelming response to this email, I'll post a summary to the list.

72

.mark

==
 Mark Schoonover KA6WKE   IS Manager
 Trail Runner,HAM   schoon@amgt.com
          ka6wke@wb6dgr.#sca.ca.usa.noam
 http://www.qsl.net/ka6wke   ka6wke-1 145.05
               Mobile: 146.52 & 28.470
   Lat: 32.85380 Long: -117.00980 Grid: DM12lu
==

IS Manager

Clones are people two!

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 12:43:41 -0400
From: "Joe Everhart" <n2cx@voicenet.com>
To: "qrpl" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [72744] N2CX back on-line
Message-ID: <002701bfd6e8$dd7bd460$365847d1@JoeEverhart>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group,

I suffered a hard disk crash a week or so back and lost all of my pending e-mails and those files which ahd not been properly backed up.

I have been limping along on another machine without full capabilities. So if you asked me for info or other response within the last two weeks and I have
not responded, that's why!

I apologize for the non-responsiveness but it was beyond my control. If you need a response, please try again!

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 10:09:01 -0700
From: "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72745] Another Dumb Scope Question
Message-ID: <60F1FEB31CA3D211A1B60008C7A45F430997FF1E@blaze.bcsc.GOV.BC.CA>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I've had an older HP scope for some time now but haven't used it because I know nothing about scopes. I've decided to change this and am going to start playing with it. The 'dumb' question is: If I'm using a 10x probe, do I multiply the readings on the scope by 10 or does the scope do this internally if it knows I'm using a 10x probe?

Also, is there a tutorial type book available that teaches the basics of using a scope? I'd like to find one that gives practice problems so I can get 'hands-on' experience not just a bunch of theory.

Doug VA7DD

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 12:41:09 -0500
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
To: <schoon@amgt.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72746] Re: RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
Message-ID: <00ce01bfd6f1$2890bda0$0200000a@mcg.net>

----- Original Message -----
From: <schoon@amgt.com>
| I have a perfectly good scope - Tek TDS-210 - and was wondering if I
| couldn't use that instead of the RF voltmeter??

Yes you sure can.

| Also, I will need to use an AF generator and was looking at my linux
| boxen with a soundcard installed. Gee, I said to myself, why couldn't I
| use the soundcard as the AF generator instead of spending a couple of
| hundred $$$ on some used equipment.

Yes you can use a soundcard as an AF Generator. You will need to take the lineout connection and feed it to a pot to adjust the level or use an attenuator. The scope can be used here as well to measure the signal level.

There are also quite a few programs for "soundcard" test equipment as well. Most I've seen are Windows or DOS, don't know about Linux. A older computer is also a great bench tool loaded up with helpful programs such as the HamCalc series. These are all GW-Basic programs and I believe there is an equivalent Linux Basic that will run these as well.

Hope this is helpful,

73 de Cla KA0GKC

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 13:43:31 -0400
From: "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
To: "'ARDUJENSKI@aol.com'" <ARDUJENSKI@aol.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72747] RE: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC3E1E3B@mail.arrl.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"

All I have done with my DK9SQ for my 40 M dipole is to prop a few rocks at the base and tie it to a small tree or bush. I tape the coax to the mast at the top and bottom. At night, I collapse the mast in place, then quickly put it back in the air when I want to operate again.

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI
ARRL Laboratory Supervisor
225 Main St
Newington, CT 06111
Tel: 860-594-0318
FAX: 860-594-0259
Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org
ARRL Web: http://www.arrl.org
ARRL Technical Information Service: http://www.arrl.org/tis/

-----Original Message-----
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com [mailto:ARDUJENSKI@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2000 11:20 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT

I was hoping you folks that have used the DK9SQ mast backpacking might share

the support system used. Two obvious ones appear to be (1)bungie cord to vertical post such as fence post or tree stump. and (2) use of guy ring/guy lines. Are these the best or is there some other ingenious method for the backpacker?

Alan KB7MBI

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 13:57:31 EDT
From: K5KW@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72748] Q-Dope (More)
Message-ID: <f.535e2c3.267a730b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Regarding sources of Q-Dope, on 6/15 Roger, N7KT, Wrote:

<You can find it at this URL: http://209.15.35.110/GC.htm>
--

The resources on this list never cease to amaze me!
Thanks for the source URL, Roger. Alex up there in
Kennebunk is bound to be a happy camper.

72,

Don, K5KW

"From Meadowlark Aerodrome on the rippling shores of Lake Eva, in the heart of the Morris-Boynton metroplex of east central Oklahoma, where every day is a sunny day".

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 11:26:33 PDT
From: "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72749] Re: RF Volt Meter or a Scope, Soundcard for AF Generator??
Message-ID: <20000615182633.77499.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Mark KA6WKE asked:

>(snip...)
>Also, I will need to use an AF generator and was looking
>at my linux boxen with a soundcard installed. Gee, I said
>to myself, why couldn't I use the soundcard as the AF
>generator instead of spending a couple of hundred $$$ on
>some used equipment. (snip...)

You can, and you can grab some sample code from:

   http://www.qsl.net/va3ldh/noise.c

It does in software what DDS chips do in hardware - compute
the phase angle, compute the waveform (cosine, but you can
use whatever you want), quantize to 8 bits (because I couldn't
be bothered to mess with 16 bit samples and byte ordering),
feed to the sound card.

On hearing the output my Mom's comment was "Wendy Carlos has
nothing to worry about!"

Laura Halliday VE7LDH   "Que les nuages soient notre
Grid: CN89mg   pied a terre..."
                                  - Hospital/Shafte

____
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Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 13:28:16 -0500
From: "Bradfield, Brad V." <BBradfield@spectrapoint.com>
To: "'jfrancis@frii.com'" <jfrancis@frii.com>, "'QRP-L'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [72750] Re: DSL
Message-ID: <8D9A3E0C6F42D1118EDC0060081D3FFA02DD9BDB@ucusmail.spectrapoint.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Hey, I used to live next door to a neighbor in a residential area with an electric fence in a residential area. I didn't know where the strong local interference was coming from till one day I was on my tower and happened to look down into my neighbors yard, and I could see where he had run the electric fence strand along the inside of his wood fence. It either didn't do the job or the dog died or ran away or something, because he didn't have it running for long. Either that, or he figured out that he was wiping out his own radio and TV reception.

72 es 73,

Brad, W5CGH

==========

Brad Bradfield, PE
Test Staff Engineer
SpectraPoint Wireless LLC
(W) 972-852-7101
(Pgr) 972-648-3632

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 14:03:51 -0500
From: Charles K Brown <n4so@juno.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72751] SMK-1/ One Watt mod/NB6M
Message-ID: <20000615.140354.16478.0.n4so@juno.com>

smk1watt.txt
From: NB6M@aol.com
Date: Sun, 4 Jun 2000 22:51:22 EDT
Subject: SMK-1 Easy One Watt Mod

Hi Gang,

Here is an easy to do a mod for the SMK-1 that will boost your transmitter
power to 1 Watt out. Your actual power out will depend on the transistor you
use, but I got 850 Milliwatts out with a generic 2N3053 from Radio Shack, and
1.15 Watts out with a 2SC799 that I had in my junk box.

You need six parts to do the mod. Here they are:

.01 (could be .1 for that matter) uf disc or monolithic bypass capacitor - one
.1 uf disc or monolithic, etc (bypass cap) - one
100 ohm resistor - two
RF transistor of your choice - one
FT37-43 toroid with 5 turns # 28 (or similar gauge) - one (10 uh, roughly, RF
choke)

I did the mod "ugly" style with all leaded parts, soldering the necessary

leads to the pads on the board. Here is what you do:

I suggest you read all the instructions first, to get an understanding of the
mod, before proceeding with the actual work.

First, remove C-22 from the board (I used two soldering irons, quick and easy)(save it)

Cut one lead of the .01 cap so as to leave about 1/4", bend a 90 degree angle
about 1/8" from the end of that lead, and solder that lead to the C-22 pad
closest to Q-3 on the board. Leave the other lead long for a moment.

Cut one lead of a 100 Ohm resistor so as to leave about 1/4", bend a 90 degree angle at 1/8" from the end of the short lead, and solder that lead to
the ground pad of R-14.

The idea is to have the resistor standing just about straight up, maybe leaning just a little bit towards Q-3. By the way, the ground end of R-14 is
the pad right at the edge of the board.

Now, using short leads on all three parts, solder the other 100 Ohm resistor
between the free lead of the first 100 Ohm resistor and the free lead of the
.01 Cap.

What we are doing here is providing a coupling capacitor from the output of
T-1 to the base of the Final Amp we are going to install. The two 100

Ohm
resistors form a divider network so as to provide about 2 Volts RF on the

base of the Final Amp. The 4 Volts or so right from the output of T-1 is
way
too much drive for the Final Amp and output network we are using, and if
we
drove it with that much RF, it would overheat and probably self destruct
in a
short while.

So, at this point you should have a .01 from the C-22 pad closest to Q-3
to a
100 Ohm resistor, which is connected to another 100 Ohm resistor, which
is
connected to ground.

Cut the Base lead of your RF transistor to about 1/2", and solder it to
the
junction of the two 100 Ohm resistors.

Cut the Emitter lead of your RF transistor to about 3/8", and solder it
to
the ground pad of R-13. Again, the ground pad is the end right on the
edge
of the board.

Wind 5 turns of #28 (you could use small insulated wire for this if you
don't
like scraping the ends of magnet wire) on the FT37-43 core.

(This is meant to be about a 10 uh RF Choke. If you don't have an
FT37-43,
you could use any combination of core and number of turns that gives you
roughly that figure. Suggestions are: 35 turns # 22 on T68-2, or 43
turns #
28 on T50-2, to name two.)(or, use a 10 uh RF choke)

The RF choke for the new final amp sits right above R-15 and R-19 on the
board. It should be oriented so that the toroid is at a 90 degree angle
from
T-1 in order to minimize coupling between the two. The two leads from
the RF
choke should be about 3/4" long.

Solder one lead of the of the RF choke to Pad 4 of T-1. This is just a
convenient spot to pick up 12 volts. You could solder this lead to the
anode

of D-10 and maybe get a teeny little bit more output, but run the risk of

destroying the new final RF amp if you accidently hook up the power backwards.

Solder the other lead of the RF choke to the Collector of your RF transistor.
 Check the lead lengths of the two and adjust accordingly before soldering
them together.

Now, the last part, the .1 uf Cap. It goes from the Collector of your RF

transistor to the C-22 pad closest to the edge of the board. Check for appropriate lead length, cut the leads, and solder it in.

That is it.

As mentioned above, I got .85 watts out with a 2N3053, and 1.15 watts out

with a 2SC799. Your mileage may vary, but this mod is just too easy to pass
up.

I just worked this one out and tested it this afternoon, and will draw the
circuit diagram using "Paint" in my windows program. If you want a copy,

Email me, and I will send it ASAP.

Enjoy.

Wayne NB6M

Ken Brown N4SO
Mobile, AL EM50tk
Norcal 20 at 5 watts
4 ele. yagi

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http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 15:49:03 -0400

From: Scott <k2zs@rochester.rr.com>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72752] remove
Message-ID: <01BFD6E1.3AD55B70.k2zs@rochester.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

remove

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 14:46:54 -0500
From: "Kevin Muenzler, WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>
To: <wb5rue@stic.net>
Subject: [72753] Very interesting web site
Message-ID: <000001bfd702$75d89d60$ef5d6f81@v8.uthscsa.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Check this out!

http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt_plots/dregion.html

Kevin, WB5RUE

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 20:16:39 +0100
From: wd3p@juno.com
To: rerobins@email.uncc.edu, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [72754] Re: Geeky Snake Oil
Message-ID: <20000615.201717.-334003.1.wd3p@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On Wed, 14 Jun 2000 14:14:21 -0400 "Richard E. Robinson"
<rerobins@email.uncc.edu> writes:
> The first Isobar box I picked up had a "Microsoft Windows
> Compatible" logo
> on the front. Was I ever relieved to find that we hadn't ordered
> the MacOS
> compatible surge suppressors by mistake. That sure saved me some

> headaches.
>
> I'll bet your next question was the same as mine. "That's great,
> but is it
> Internet ready?" No worries mate, the box proudly states "Isotel
> surge
> suppressors are INTERNET-READY". (Their emphasis, not mine.) Wow!

I saw this and was just sure someone was pulling my leg. So today at work I noticed a SurgeMaster surge suppressor box out in the trash so I took a closer look. Sure enough right there on the top in big letter it said INTERNET READY. Now I need some help I can't figure out which of the many holes in the thing I get the Internet out of.

And sure enough it also says it gives me Internet protection - phone/fax/modem. I really like that feature now I don't have to worry about the kids getting into the wrong stuff on the Internet. So I'm protected even if I get the Internet by FAX. But again I need help. I just can't seem to figure out which hole to put the paper into for the fax.

But the best feature of all is the "Safety Shutdown Technology" feature. They must have spent big bucks for this thing. It say it "powers down the system when the surge protection has expired." Now I couldn't find an expiration date on the thing but is real nice to have that power down feature. I just know windows does not like it when you just turn off the power. I don't think I need any help figuring out how to use that part of the system.

This new technology is just great.............

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD

_____
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http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 14:27:11 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca>, Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [72755] speaker question
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1000615142245.22379A-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I'm about to mount a speaker in my SW-30 rig.....it will be mounted underneath the top cover for the chassis which will have a hole cut in it to allow the sound out....I have two 8 ohm speakers ...one is 2 inches in diameter and the other is 3 inches in diameter....I'd be very pleased to end up with a note around 600 hz....I'm thinking the 3 inch speaker would be the best choice....am I going in the right direction here folks?...thanks very much.....

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - SOC #11 & #12 - Whiner#10 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 16:49:18 -0400
From: fcsw@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72756] FS Heathkit Power Supply
Message-ID: <20000615.164919.-3936531.0.fcsw@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Power supply. Heathkit VFA-7401-1, handsome case
matches their last VHF-FM rig. 13.8 VDC, adjustable.
3A. W/manual. Excellent condition, $40.

dick, W2SCF, fcsw@juno.com

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 17:38:11 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: BenNW7DX@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72757] Re: Enclosures with Clear Lacquer
Message-ID: <b7.40904db.267aa6c3@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have used Krylon Clear on the enclosures that I have Datak labels, Brother P-Touch labels or stamp-pad ink on. It protects these quite well, and hasn't provided the slightest hint of yellow on my projects, even after some years.

Of course, make sure the enclosure is VERY clean, oil-free and handle it carefully before you paint/label/seal it. You'll notice the difference if

you don't!

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 18:02:16 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72758] Re: DK9SQ MAST SUPPORT
Message-ID: <cb.6b36820.267aac68@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I wonder if mounting the mast into the ground using the system devised by Vern, W6MMA for the St. Louis Vertical would be do-able for the DK9SQ. Basically, a very long nail (spike) is mounted in a large dowel. This dowel is mounted into a PVC arrangement that will fit over the bottom end of the mast. This is stuck into the ground, and for a 20' pole, will just not come out because of wind!

This means more h/w to pack, but means no guy wires or supports. A thought, what think DK9SQ users?

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 18:29:49 -0400 (EDT)
From: "baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com" <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>
To: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [72759] Re: help needed please with DTMF decoding
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.05L.10006151828160.606-100000@vh1.min.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 15 Jun 2000, Steven Weber wrote:

> Or, you could get your own mean, lean guard dog....

Heck of an idea for a Kit...SM r through the hole.

././/././/././/

http://www.baltimorehon.com Home of the Baltimore Lexicon
http://www.min.net/~thom/ QRP and Drake Mail List Pages

Date: Thu, 15 Jun 2000 18:52:10 -5
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [72760] San Jose next week??
Message-ID: <200006152252.SAA29966@sparticus.bright.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I will be at a seminar in San Jose all week next week. Anyone in the area interested in a QRP gathering Tues, Wed, or Thurs evening?? I'll have wheels, so I can get around. I do need to spend one evening with the in-laws in Sunnyvale tho ;>)
73 - Bill - N8ET
Kanga US
kanga@mail.bright.net
http://www.bright.net/~kanga/
419-423-4604

End of QRP-L Digest 1853
****